

A NEW CLASSIFICATION OF THE  
SEPEDON GROUP OF THE FAMILY SCIOMYZIDAE  
(DIPTERA) WITH TWO NEW GENERA<sup>1</sup>

George C. Steyskal<sup>2</sup>

This new classification of the genera related to *Sepedon* Latreille is presented at this time in order to define new genera to be used in further work on the group and as a preliminary to a catalogue of the neotropical species.

Among the Tetanocerini as defined by me (Steyskal, 1965), the group of genera distinguished by the following characters has been designated as the Sepedonini by Acloque (1897:481), and by various later authors as Sepedontini (incorrectly formed), Sepedonina, Sepedoninae, and even Sepedonidae: Vallar bristles present (on ridge immediately below wing); lunule well exposed; ocellar bristles small and weak or lacking; scutellar bristles 2; face more or less extended below.

I do not believe that this group is sufficiently distinct from more typical Tetanocerini, especially from such genera as *Hedria* and *Dichetophora*, to be given the rank of tribe or even subtribe. I would prefer to call it merely "the *Sepedon* group." The African genus *Tetanoptera* Verbeke (1950:18) was placed by its author in the Tetanocerinae rather than in the Sepedoninae, but with the statement that it is intermediate between those two groups. The genus is based upon a single female specimen. When a male is available, I believe that the genus will be found synonymous with *Sepedon*.

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<sup>2</sup> Mail address: c/o U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560.

The American species of the group have been referred previously to *Sepedon*, with the exception of 3 species of *Thecomyia*, a very specialized genus restricted to the neotropical region. Work on *Thecomyia* now in progress indicates that 13 species must be recognized. Some of the American species referred to *Sepedon* are so distinct from the typical members of that genus, as well as from other genera of the group, that 2 new genera are here proposed for them. The new and previously known genera of the *Sepedon* group may be distinguished as in the following key.

Genera of Sciomyzidae of the **Sepedon** Group

- 1 (2) Sternum closed above hindcoxae; lower head drawn out into conical rostrum into which proboscis may be withdrawn; palpus not developed, postocellar and usually fronto-orbitals lacking; pleural sclerites without hairs or bristles, except a few hairs on propleuron close above forecoxa (Neotropical) . . . . . **Thecomyia** Perty
- 2 (1) Sternum above hindcoxae divided by membranous area; lower head not forming tube into which proboscis may be withdrawn; palpus well developed; postocellars present or absent; fronto-orbitals 1-2 pairs; pleura frequently with numerous hairs.
- 3 (6) Postocellars absent; 1 fronto-orbital; midfemur with minute bristles or setae, none of which is distinctly larger than the others.
- 4 (5) Postalars and supra-alars weak or hairlike; notopleurals 2; hindfemur much longer than abdomen, hindtibia straight; parafacial with black spot just ventrad of antennae; metapleural callus with several hairs; lunule probuberant between antennal bases; large neotropical species . . . . . **Sepedomerus**, new genus  
Type of genus, *Sepedon marcopus* Walker; gender masculine.
- 5 (4) Postalars and supra-alars strong; notopleural 1; hindfemur approximately as long as abdomen, hindtibia gently curved; parafacial unicolorous; metapleural callus without hairs; lunule flat between antennal bases; small African species (wing 4.5 mm or less in length) . . . . . **Sepedonella** Verbeke

- 6 (3) Postocellars well developed; fronto-orbitals 0-2; midfemur with one or more distinctly larger anterior setae near midlength of femur.
- 7 (8) Fronto-orbitals 2, 1 proclinate and 1 reclinate, but sometimes greatly reduced; parafacial without spot (African) ..... **Sepedoninus** Verbeke
- 8 (7) Fronto-orbitals lacking or only posterior 1 present; parafacial without spot or with spot just below level of antennae.
- 9 (10) Face with black spot in each lower corner; forefemur with at least 1 outstanding dorsal bristle; male with surstyli fused to form one median structure; neotropical species ..... **Sepedonea**, new genus  
Type of genus, *Sepedon lindneri* Hendel; gender feminine.
- 10 (9) Face without spot in lower corners; forefemur without outstanding dorsal bristle; male with surstyli well separated on median line (widespread outside of American tropics) ..... **Sepedon** Latreille

Including subgenera *Mesosepedon* and *Parasepedon* and genus *Sepedomyia* (see Verbeke, 1950), which latter (1st antennal segment somewhat elongated) is very doubtfully more than subgenerically distinct.

#### Species Referred to New Genera

- Sepedomerus bipuncticeps* (Malloch), n. comb.  
*S. bipuncticeps trinidadensis* (Steyskal), n. status, n. comb.  
*S. caeruleus* (Melander), n. comb.  
*S. macropus* (Walker), n. comb. (type of genus)  
*Sepedonea guatemalana* (Steyskal), n. comb.  
*S. guianica* (Steyskal), n. comb.  
*S. isthmi* (Steyskal), n. comb.  
*S. lagoa* (Steyskal), n. comb.  
*S. lindneri* (Hendel), n. comb.  
*S. telson* (Steyskal), n. comb.

Descriptions and references to the above may be found in Steyskal (1951).

## LITERATURE CITED

- Acloque, A. 1897. Faune de France. viii + 516 pp. Paris: Billiere et fils.
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ABSTRACT.—The group of genera related to *Sepedon* Latreille are defined and the new genera *Sepedomerus* (type, *Sepedon macropus* Walker) and *Sepedonea* (type, *Sepedon lindneri* Hendel) are described in a key. A list of new combinations is also given. — George C. Steyskal, c/o U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560.

*Descriptors:* Diptera: Sciomyzidae; *Sepedomerus*, new genus; *Sepedonea*, new genus; neotropical region.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

Required six-months' notice is given of the possible use of plenary powers by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in connection with the following names listed by case number (see *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 30, part 1, 6th July 1973).

272. Type-species for *Nicodrilus* Bouche, 1972 (Oligochaeta)
1958. Correction of homonymy of DREPANIDAE in Insecta and Pisces
2007. Type-species for *Nipponaphera* Habe, 1961 (Gastropoda)
2008. Suppression of *Macgillivraya* Grote, 1894 (Insecta, Collembola)
2009. Validation of *Haematopinus eurysternus* Denny, 1842 (Insecta, Anoplura)
2015. Validation of *Gammarus setosus* Dementieva, 1931 (Crustacea, Amphipoda)
2017. Suppression of *Rhopalidia* Lepelletier, 1836 (Insecta, Hymenoptera)
2021. Type-Species for *Tutufa* Jousseume, 1881 (Gastropoda)
2023. Suppression of *Formica maxima* Moore, 1842 (Insecta, Hymenoptera)
2025. Suppression of *Daristane* Walker, 1859 (Insecta, Lepidoptera)
2026. Type-species for *Crinocerus* Burmeister, 1839 (Insecta, Hemiptera)
2028. Type-species for *Onycholyda* Takeuchi, 1938 (Insecta, Hymenoptera)

Comments should be sent in duplicate, citing case number, to the Secretary, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, c/o British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, England. Those received early enough will be published in the Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

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MARGARET GREEN  
Scientific Assistant